

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 5, 9, 14, and 18 as follows. All pending claims are reproduced below.

1 1. (Currently amended) A keypad, comprising:

2 a plurality of keys; and

3 a flexible carrier contacting the plurality of keys, the flexible carrier

4 having openings therein between the plurality of keys;

5 wherein the openings divide the flexible carrier into at least two serpen-
6 tine-shaped parts.

1 2. (Original) The keypad of claim 1, wherein the openings between the plu-
2 rality of keys do not contact the plurality of keys.

1 3. (Original) The keypad of claim 1, wherein the plurality of keys are formed
2 as a unitary part of the flexible carrier.

1 4. (Original) The keypad of claim 1, further including attachment means for
2 attaching the plurality of keys to the flexible carrier.

1 5. (Currently amended) ~~The keypad of claim 1,~~ A keypad, comprising:

2 a plurality of keys; and

3 a flexible carrier contacting the plurality of keys, the flexible carrier

4 having openings therein between the plurality of keys;

5 wherein at least some of the openings are cruciform-shaped.

1 6. (Cancelled).

1 7. (Cancelled).

1 8. (Cancelled).

1 9. (Currently amended) ~~The keypad of claim 1,~~ A keypad, comprising:

2 a plurality of keys; and

3 a flexible carrier contacting the plurality of keys, the flexible carrier

4 having openings therein between the plurality of keys;

5 wherein the openings divide the flexible carrier into multiple parts.

1 10. (Original) The keypad of claim 9, wherein the multiple parts are multiple
2 columns.

1 11. (Original) The keypad of claim 9, wherein the multiple parts are multiple
2 rows.

1 12. (Original) The keypad of claim 9, wherein the multiple parts have a zig-
2 zag shaped edge.

1 13. (Cancelled).

1 14. (Currently amended) ~~The keypad of claim 1,~~ A keypad, comprising:

2 a plurality of keys; and

3 a flexible carrier contacting the plurality of keys, the flexible carrier

4 having openings therein between the plurality of keys;

5 wherein the openings form at least one slot in the flexible carrier.

1 15. (Original) The keypad of claim 1, the flexible carrier having cutouts in an
2 outer perimeter of the flexible carrier.

1 16. (Original) The keypad of claim 15, wherein the cutouts in the outer pe-
2 rimeter occur in accordance with locations of the plurality of keys.

1 17. (Original) The keypad of claim 1, wherein the openings in the flexible car-
2 rier occur in accordance with locations of the plurality of keys.

1 18. (Currently amended) ~~The keypad of claim 1,~~ A keypad, comprising:

2 a plurality of keys; and

3 a flexible carrier contacting the plurality of keys, the flexible carrier

4 having openings therein between the plurality of keys;

5 wherein the openings serve to decouple the plurality of keys from each other.

1 19. (Original) The keypad of claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of
2 keys is tactilely differentiated from others of the keys.

1 20. (Original) The keypad of claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of
2 keys are domed.

1 21. (Original) The keypad of claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of
2 keys is bowl-shaped.

1 22. (Original) The keypad of claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of
2 keys has an inverted dimple thereon.

1 23. (Original) The keypad of claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of
2 keys has a peak thereon.

1 24. (Original) A keypad, comprising:
2 a plurality of keys, each key having an actuator; and
3 a flexible carrier surrounding the plurality of keys and having an open-
4 ing for each actuator and having additional openings between
5 the actuators, the additional openings serving to decouple the
6 plurality of keys.

1 25. (Original) The keypad of claim 24, wherein at least one of the actuators
2 contacts a snap dome when the actuator is in a pressed condition.

1 26. (Original) The keypad of claim 24, wherein the openings between the plu-
2 rality of keys do not contact the plurality of keys.

1 27. (Original) The keypad of claim 24, wherein at least some of the additional
2 openings are cruciform-shaped.

1 28. (Original) The keypad of claim 24 wherein at least some of the additional
2 openings are round.

1 29 (Original) The keypad of claim 24 wherein at least some of the additional
2 openings are oval shaped.

1 30. (Original) The keypad of claim 24 wherein at least two of the additional
2 openings have different shapes.

1 31. (Original) The keypad of claim 24 wherein the additional openings divide
2 the flexible carrier into multiple parts.

1 32. (Original) The keypad of claim 31, wherein the multiple parts are multi-
2 ple columns.

1 33. (Original) The keypad of claim 31, wherein the multiple parts are multi-
2 ple rows.

1 34. (Original) The keypad of claim 31, wherein the multiple parts have a zig-
2 zag shaped edge.

1 35. (Original) The keypad of claim 24, wherein the openings divide the flexi-
2 ble carrier into at least two serpentine-shaped parts.

1 36. (Original) The keypad of claim 24, wherein the openings form at least one
2 slot in the flexible carrier.

1 37. (Original) The keypad of claim 24, an edge of the flexible carrier having
2 cutouts in an outer perimeter of the edge.

1 38. (Original) The keypad of claim 37, wherein the cutouts in the flexible pe-
2 rimeter occur in accordance with locations of the plurality of keys.

1 39. (Original) The keypad of claim 24, wherein the openings in the flexible
2 carrier occur in accordance with locations of the plurality of keys.

1 40. (Original) The keypad of claim 24, wherein the openings serve to de-
2 couple the plurality of keys from each other.

1 41. (Original) The keypad of claim 24, wherein at least one of the plurality of
2 keys is tactilely differentiated from others of the keys.

1 42. (Canceled)

1 43. (Canceled)

1 44. (Canceled)

1 45. (Canceled)

1 46. (Canceled)

1 47. (Canceled)

1 48. (Canceled)

49. (Canceled)